

John 6 Part 1 (v.1-45)

Intro: We have seen Jesus' miracles as well as His discussions with Nicodemus, and the Samaritan woman. We have seen that He is the Word of God incarnate - GOD in human flesh, the Creator walking among men. He is the Lord of the Sabbath, and Moses wrote of Him. He now heads from Jerusalem to Galilee.

I. JESUS FEEDS 5,000 V.1-14

- 1. After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias.**
- 2. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.**
- 3. And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.**
- 4. And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.**

"The Jews" again, is not an anti-Semitic term. John is a very Jewish book, and yet it is prepared for a world-wide audience. Keep in mind that the entire crowd here (at least the majority) is Jewish!

- 5. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?**
- 6. And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.**

Prove here, is "test."

- 7. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.**

How much is 200 pennyworth? The Roman denarius was a day's wages. NC minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour. An 8 hour day would earn \$58. 200 days worth would be \$11,600 today. Philip is saying "Even if we had 12,000 bucks, it wouldn't be enough for everyone to get just a little!"

- 8. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,**
- 9. There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?**

Statements that lack faith: "Who am I to do this?" "How can I do this?" "What can I accomplish with so little?" "I can't do it." "That's just too crazy to even try." "I don't know enough." "I'm not talented enough." "I'm not righteous enough."

- 10. And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.**

In ancient times it was common practice when counting to number the men only. There are two different words here used for "men" the first can describe "people." The second is specifically "men." According to archeological data, at this time, Nazareth had a population of 200. This was a huge crowd. Jesus' following was no longer "local" but regional. John's memory of this event is fresh, as he recalls that there was a lot of grass there.

- 11. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.**

This is when the miracle occurs. If Jesus blesses something, He continues to bless it as it is worked out. The gospel does no good on a shelf, in a closet, or even in our hands. It must be given out!

12. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

12 is significant. It also shows that Jesus doesn't waste anything.

14. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

This was a reference to Deut. 18:15-18 and John 1:21. These men were Jewish.

II. JESUS WALKS ON WATER V.15-21

15. When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

16. And when even was now come, his disciples went down unto the sea,

17. And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum.

18. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them.

And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew.

19. So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid.

30 Furlongs = 3.5 miles. Storms are common on the Sea of Galilee.

20. But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid.

21. Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.

III. JESUS TEACHES ON THE BREAD OF LIFE V. 22-59

22. The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but that his disciples were gone away alone;

23. (Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:)

24. When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus.

The people wondered where Jesus was. They wanted to see Him! They boarded Tiberian boats bound for Capernaum.

25. And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither?



26. Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

To put it in the context of here and now, Jesus is the Messiah. He is God! He can do the impossible, and amazing things! He died on the cross, and rose again for our sin! - but the most amazing thing (to us) is that He can save **us**! He can work in **our lives**! He can forgive **us personally and individually**! He can give **us new life, and change us forever**! He can take **us to heaven**! **He can fill you! He can give you peace!**

27. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

28. Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

29. Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

They are missing the point completely! What is the one thing that Jesus asks of you? What is the one thing that God wants this world to do? Believe on Jesus! Trust Him!

30. They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

31. Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

32. Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

You do not understand the Torah, the bread didn't come from Moses, but Moses' God.

33. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

The manna from heaven was simply a picture of the true sustenance that comes from God.

34. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

35. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

"And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live." - Deuteronomy 8:3

Jesus quotes this to Satan in Matthew 4. Jesus is the Word of God. True Israelites will live by Jesus Himself.

36. But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

Compare this to the Samaritan woman's response in John 4:13-14, 39-42

37. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

"All that" is used collectively. This refers to the same group in verse 40. Those that believe on Jesus. The Father promises that they will be resurrected (v.39)

38. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

39. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

40. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

The will of the Father is that those who believe on the Son would be raised up.

41. The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.

42. And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?

43. Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves.

44. No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Key observations:

1. All that the Father giveth me (not all He draws) shall come to me;
2. and him that cometh to me (not everyone the Father draws) I will in no wise cast out.
3. And this is the Father's will...that of all which he giveth me (not all whom He draws) I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.
4. Every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him (not all who are drawn), may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up...
5. No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him (all who come have been drawn—not all who are drawn come): and I will raise him up at the last day (all who will be raised up have been drawn, but not all who have been drawn will be raised up).

"Whosoever will" is constantly taught in Scripture (John 3:16-17,36;7:37) "Drawn" is not "irresistibly driven." The Lord has always reached out to rebellious Israel. The Pharisees resisted the Holy Ghost (Acts 7:51). Some who have been drawn turn back without coming to Christ (Heb. 10:38,39). Jesus said He would draw all men to Himself (John 12:32).

45. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

This is from Isaiah 54:13. Look at John 5:37,38.

"The entire teaching of the Bible indicates that the Father's drawing and giving of the redeemed to Christ is the **result of** their hearing and learning from the Father through the gospel of God...." (*Debating Calvinism*, p.132, Dave Hunt)